

IN THE CLAIMS

1.-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A method to facilitate category selection by a user in a computerized transaction, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of category entries to be displayed for said user in a category field within a display window, said plurality of category entries being used to categorize an item in said computerized transaction;

detecting selection by said user of a category entry of said plurality of category entries;

responding to said detection of said selection of said category entry, providing a plurality of subcategory entries being hierarchically related to said selected category entry within a category hierarchy data structure, to be hierarchically displayed for said user in at least one subcategory field within said display window, concurrently with said category field, said plurality of subcategory entries being used to categorize said item in said transaction; and

providing a category number associated with said selected category entry to be displayed for said user in said display window.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein said category field comprises twelve category entries in alphabetical order.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, further comprising subsequently detecting input of said category number from said user and, responsive to said detection of said input, providing said associated category entry to be displayed for said user in said category field.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein said at least one subcategory field further comprises a first subcategory field containing a plurality of first subcategory entries being hierarchically related to said category entry of said plurality of category entries selected by said user; a second subcategory field containing a plurality of second subcategory entries being hierarchically related to a selected first subcategory entry of said plurality of first subcategory entries; and a third subcategory field containing a plurality of third subcategory entries being hierarchically related to a selected second subcategory entry of said plurality of second subcategory entries.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein said category field and said at least one subcategory field are contained in graphically distinct areas within said display window.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said at least one subcategory field is substantially adjacent to said category field.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said category field and said at least one subcategory field are page mark-up language documents.

17.-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium containing executable instructions which, when executed in a processing system, cause said system to perform a method to facilitate category selection by a user in a computerized transaction, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of category entries to be displayed for said user in a category field within a display window, said plurality of category entries being used to categorize an item in said computerized transaction;

detecting selection by said user of a category entry of said plurality of category entries;

responsive to said detection of said selection of said category entry, providing a plurality of subcategory entries being hierarchically related to said selected category entry within a category hierarchy data structure, to be hierarchically displayed for said user in at least one subcategory field within said display window, concurrently with said category field, said plurality of subcategory entries being used to categorize said item in said transaction; and

providing a category number associated with said selected category entry to be displayed for said user in said display window.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said category field comprises twelve category entries in alphabetical order.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said method further comprises subsequently detecting input of said category number from said user and, responsive to said detection of said input, providing said associated category entry to be displayed for said user in said category field.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said at least one subcategory field further comprises a first subcategory field containing a plurality of first subcategory entries being hierarchically related to said category entry of said plurality of category entries selected by said user; a second subcategory field containing a plurality of second subcategory entries being hierarchically related to a selected first subcategory entry of said plurality of first subcategory entries; and a third subcategory field containing a plurality of third subcategory entries being hierarchically related to a selected second subcategory entry of said plurality of second subcategory entries.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said category field and said at least one subcategory field are contained in graphically distinct areas within said display window.

31. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 30, wherein said at least one subcategory field is substantially adjacent to said category field.

32. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 30, wherein said category field and said at least one subcategory field are page mark-up language documents.

33.-40. (Canceled)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/491,703

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Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FACILITATING USER SELECTION OF A CATEGORY ITEM IN A TRANSACTION

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41. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by said computer to perform a method to facilitate category selection by a user in a computerized transaction, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of category entries to be displayed for said user in a category field within a display window, said plurality of category entries being used to categorize an item in said computerized transaction;

detecting selection by said user of a category entry of said plurality of category entries selected by said user;

responsive to said detection of said selection of said category entry, providing a plurality of subcategory entries being hierarchically related to said selected category entry within a category hierarchy data structure, to be hierarchically displayed for said user in at least one subcategory field within said display window, concurrently with said category field, said plurality of subcategory entries being used to categorize said item in said transaction; and

providing a category number associated with said selected category entry to be displayed for said user in said display window.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Original) The article of manufacture according to claim 41, wherein said category field comprises twelve category entries in alphabetical order.

44. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture according to claim 41, wherein said method further comprises subsequently detecting input of said category number from said user and, responsive to said detection of said input, providing said associated category entry to be displayed for said user in said category field.

45. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture according to claim 41, wherein said at least one subcategory field further comprises a first subcategory field containing a plurality of first subcategory entries being hierarchically related to said category entry of said plurality of category entries selected by said user; a second subcategory field containing a plurality of second subcategory entries being hierarchically related to a selected first subcategory entry of said plurality of first subcategory entries; and a third subcategory field containing a plurality of third subcategory entries being hierarchically related to a selected second subcategory entry of said plurality of second subcategory entries.

46. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture according to claim 41, wherein said category field and said at least one subcategory field are contained in graphically distinct areas within said display window.

47. (Original) The article of manufacture according to claim 46, wherein said at least one subcategory field is substantially adjacent to said category field.

48. (Original) The article of manufacture according to claim 46, wherein said category field and said at least one subcategory field are page mark-up language documents.

49.-57. (Canceled)

58. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:
detecting selection by said user of at least one subcategory entry of said plurality of subcategory entries.

59. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 58, further comprising:
responsive to said detection of said selection of said at least one subcategory entry,
providing a category number associated with said selected category entry and said at least one selected subcategory entry to be displayed for said user in said display window.

60.-61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said method further comprises:

detecting selection by said user of at least one subcategory entry of said plurality of subcategory entries.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 62, wherein said method further comprises:

responsive to said detection of said selection of said at least one subcategory entry, providing a category number associated with said selected category entry and said at least one selected subcategory entry to be displayed for said user in said display window.

64.-65. (Canceled)

66. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture according to claim 41, wherein said method further comprises:

detecting selection by said user of at least one subcategory entry of said plurality of subcategory entries.

67. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture according to claim 66, wherein said method further comprises:

responsive to said detection of said selection of said at least one subcategory entry, providing a category number associated with said selected category entry and said at least one selected subcategory entry to be displayed for said user in said display window.

68.-70. (Canceled)

71. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein said plurality of category entries are maintained in said category field within said display window and said plurality of subcategory entries are displayed in said at least one subcategory field within said display window, concurrently with said plurality of category entries.

72. (Canceled)

73. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said plurality of category entries are maintained in said category field within said display window and said plurality of subcategory entries are displayed in said at least one subcategory field within said display window, concurrently with said plurality of category entries.

74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture according to claim 41, wherein said plurality of category entries are maintained in said category field within said display window and said plurality of subcategory entries are displayed in said at least one subcategory field within said display window, concurrently with said plurality of category entries.

76. (Canceled)